

ON THE HOME FRONT

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

News From Jackson County for Men in the Armed Services

The Mail Tribune suggests you clip and mail this news roundup to a relative or friend in service.

Date _____

Dear _____

The valley is beginning to son. Bartlett orchards are full take on the familiar hurry and of pickers and loaded trucks bustle of the fruit harvest sea-hurry from orchards to packing

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plants. It is reported that almost the entire Bartlett crop will be packed, little of the fruit going to canneries.

Nearly 700 Mexican nationals are in the district to aid with the work. This is considerably more than last year, but this fall little soldier help is available, the population at Camp White being currently at a low figure. About 2,000 people attended the opening of the American Fruit company's new packing plant here last week-end and were impressed with the building's size, construction and improvements. A new large cold storage and packing plant has been constructed in Ashland by Earl T. Newbury and is ready for operation.

Medfordites turned in 25,000 pounds of salvaged tin cans during a drive last week and will now turn attention to the coming waste paper drive which starts soon. Table Rock ranchers report that the fight against mosquitoes, said to be out in unusual numbers this summer, is making headway but that control efforts would be continued. Returning from a meeting in Seattle, Mayor C. A. Meeker reports that Medford's 125-unit Victory Housing Center will not be dismantled until after the war or until the housing emergency is over.

Many farewell parties are being given for the William A. Holloways and their daughters, since they are leaving this week-end to live in Phoenix, Ariz. Also leaving is Leslie E. Grant, athletic coach and instructor at Medford high school last year, who is leaving to take up Boy Scout work in Bellingham, Wash.

Several Medford families are experiencing that happy event—the return of sons and husbands from overseas duty. Capt. Joseph J. Patton arrived home last week after 16 months in England. He flew two missions over France on D-Day and has flown 75 missions over enemy territory altogether, for which he has been considerably decorated. Also home is Pvt. Donald Poling after fighting and being wounded in Italy. After three months in hospitals in Italy and Africa, he was returned to this country.

Sgt. Albert Razum has returned to this country after more than two and a half years duty in the South Pacific and Dick Milestone, pharmacist's mate first class, is home after 18 months in the Solomons and New Hebrides during which he participated in two engagements. Sgt. Harold Kludt is home from Panama where he spent 25 months.

Lt. Clyde Hollenbeck returned to this country by clipper last week and after a few days at the marine base in San Diego expects to be in Medford. A marine pilot, the officer spent 10 months in the South Pacific.

A dispatch from a naval base in England tells of the part Wendell M. Vaughn, seaman first class, played in the landing on the Normandy beach. Vaughn was one of a crew whose duty it was to destroy enemy obstacles and the dispatch describes how he swam ashore, with TNT strapped to his chest, and crawled up the dunes to his objective.

Also in the news is M. Sgt. Merrill Stanley, who has been awarded the Legion of Merit for his work in establishing communications in the Persian Gulf area. The award was made at Camp Crowder, Mo., and following the ceremony 3,000 troops passed in review before the sergeant. Sgt. Stanley returned to this country by plane last April after several months in Persia.

Second Lt. Richard Wright has been awarded an Air Medal at a bomber station in England and First Lt. Louis N. Iven, Flying Fortress bombardier, also in England, has been awarded a second Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal. Pvt. Glenn S. McKee is a member of a port company at an advanced Aleutian base which has been commended for the unit's outstanding work as cargo handlers. A special story from the South Pacific tells of the duties of Sgt. John C. Crocker who is stationed at a headquarters base and helps to look after the army's elaborate records of each GI.

When relatives of Earl Jones saw the movie "Gung Ho" recently they recognized shots of the marine, now in Seattle attending officer training school.

From the Pacific area Myrlin H. Scott, coxswain, writes of meeting his twin brother, Melvin, AOM 2c, the latter coming aboard the former's ship while it was in Pearl Harbor. "Every-one thought it was me," the coxswain wrote. Maj. Stephen Nye and Major Edwin R. Durno are currently in the same vicinity in southwest England and able to see one another frequently and also from England comes word that Second Lt. Elizabeth Vilm is now administrative assistant to one of the military air advisers. Jack Denison writes that he is now in France with a field artillery unit. William E. Phipps, with the Associated

Press, is en route to England as a war correspondent.

Mr. and Mrs. Heine Hertager of Prospect have received official word of the death of their son, Victor, USMC, who died in the crash of a plane after it had bombed a Japanese transport in Rabaul harbor Jan. 17.

Leo David Miksche, commissioned Aug. 4 when he graduated from the two-engine pilot's school at Pecos, was home briefly on leave last week and then reported at Roswell, N.M. where he will be trained as a B-17 pilot. Lt. David S. Williams soon will complete his combat training at Sioux City, where he has been assigned as co-pilot of a heavy bomber, and Merton W. LeRoy has been commissioned a flight officer at the Victorville field in California.

Aviation Cadet Robert E. Brown recently completed the first phase of flight training at Orangeburg, S. C. Cadet Calvin D. Ott is at Majors Field, Tex., for basic and Cadet Herbert L. Edwards has reported at the Big Springs bombardier school in Texas. Pvt. Robert M. Meals has graduated from the armament school of Lowry Field in Denver and Second Lt. Stanley L. Winter has been assigned to duty at the Walla Walla air field. Earl Moses Manley is taking pre-flight training at the San Antonio cadet center. Sgt. Loren Bowman has completed a communications' course at Ft. Lelvoir, Va.

From the southwest Pacific Herbert Goldsmith writes that he has been promoted to aviation machinist's mate first

class. Everett W. Cushman has been promoted to sergeant in the military police at Ft. Douglas, Utah.

Home on leave this week is Stanley D. Smith, flight engineer in the navy air corps from Key West, Fla.; Howard W. Fry, Jr., from Farragut, Ida.; Lt. Harold Grow, who reports next to Hobbs, N. M., for B-17 transition school, and Cpl. Donald M. Ivie, from Camp Van Dorn, Miss. Lt. and Mrs. Dale E. McMullin and infant son have left for Tampa, Fla., after a visit in Oregon and Cpl. Dee Parker has returned to Fresno where he is with the air service command after a furlough at home.

First Lt. Marjorie Kelly has returned to her station at Eglin Field, Fla., after a leave in Medford and Cpl. Alfred B. Davis has been here from Walla Walla base.

Cadet and Mrs. Neville Biden have a daughter born August 10 at Orlando, Fla. Cadet Biden is now stationed at Ft. Lee, Va., for special training.

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